

**REMARKS****Amendments to the Claims**

The Applicants respectfully ask the Examiner to replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application with the listing of claims currently provided. Claims 13-24 were amended. Additionally, Claim numbers were inadvertently left off two claims from the previous submission. Thus, the previously filed unnumbered claim "The method of claim 11 wherein said agent comprises ninjurin" is now numbered Claim 22; the previously filed unnumbered claim "The method of claim 11 wherein said agent comprises neural agrin" is now numbered Claim 24; previously filed Claim 24 is now Claim 25.

**Restriction Requirement**

The Examiner has restricted the present application under 35 U.S.C. §121 as allegedly disclosing 2 independent and distinct inventions designated Group I (Claims 1-11 and 25) and II (Claims 12-24). The Applicants elect to prosecute Examiner's Group I (Claims 1-11 and 25).

The Examiner has further restricted Group I under 35 U.S.C. §121 as allegedly disclosing species of such diverged subject matter that separate unique searches are required and has designated these embodiments as Group A (an antibody able to selectively bind said polypeptide), Group B (a competitive inhibitor of said polypeptide), Group C (a compound able to selectively prevent the expression of a gene encoding said polypeptide), Group D (a binding protein other than an antibody), Group E (a ribozyme) and Group F (a nucleic acid encoding an inactive growth factor receptor able to bind said growth). The Applicants elect to prosecute Examiner's Group D (a binding protein other than an antibody).

The Examiner has further restricted Group I under 35 U.S.C. §121 as allegedly disclosing species of such diverged subject matter that separate unique searches are required and has designated these embodiments as Group A (IGF I), Group B (IGFII), Group C (CNTF), Group D (NT-3), Group E (NT-4), Group F (BDGF), Group G (LIF), Group H (Tenacin-C),

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Group I (Ninjurin), Group J (N-CAM) and Group K (N-agrin). The Applicants elect to prosecute Examiner's Group A (IGF I).

### **CONCLUSION**

For the above reasons the Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance, and the Applicants respectfully urge the Examiner to issue a Notice to that effect. Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent. Please use Deposit Account 01-0885 for the payment of any extension of time fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 or any other fees due in connection with the current response.

Respectfully submitted,

/DEAN G. STATHAKIS/

Dean G. Stathakis, Ph.D.

Registration No. 54,465

Agent of Record



**ALLERGAN**

**LEGAL DEPARTMENT**

2525 Dupont Drive

Irvine, California 92612-1599

Tel: 714/246-6521

Fax: 714/246-4249